

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 DLOS-06 SP-02 FEA-01

ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 /125 R

DRAFTED BY L/OES:BHOXMAN:MERS

APPROVED BY L/OES - BERNARD H. OXMAN

D/LOS - MR. TAFT (DRAFT)

NEA/EGY - MR. KENNEDY (DRAFT)

S/P - MR. VELIOTES (INFO)

----- 081991

R 231419Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235852

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS

1. ON LAST DAY OF FIFTH SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE, SEPTEMBER 17, PROFESSOR SHEHAB OF EGYPTIAN DELEGATION MENTIONED TO BERNARD H. OXMAN, DEPUTY CHIEF US DEL., THAT HE WOULD LIKE U.S. TEAM TO COME TO CAIRO TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF STRAITS AND OTHER MATTERS. HE MENTIONED THAT ARAB STATES WILL BE MEETING IN JANUARY, AND THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND U.S. VISIT BEFORE THAT. HE INDICATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY LEGAL OFFICE WOULD FOLLOW UP
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DIRECTLY WITH OXMAN OR, PURSUANT TO OXMAN SUGGESTION,

WITH AMEMBASSY CAIRO. (IT WAS UNCLEAR WHETHER INVITATION IS INTENDED AS A COURTESY OR REFLECTS SUBSTANTIVE DESIRE TO COORDINATE. TIMING SUGGESTION WOULD TEND TO INDICATE LATTER.)

2. OXMAN INDICATED THAT WE HAD NOT BEGUN TO FORMULATE ANY TRAVEL PLANS FOR THE FALL, BUT WOULD CERTAINLY TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT IN FORMULATING THESE PLANS.

3. EMBASSY WILL RECALL THAT PROFESSOR SHEHAB PARTICIPATED IN BILATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER DURING CURRENT LOS SESSION. WE ALSO NOTE THAT ARAB GROUP AMENDMENTS ON STRAITS INTRODUCED BY EGYPT AT LAST SESSION RELATED ONLY TO STRAITS CONNECTING THE HIGH SEAS TO THE TERRITORIAL SEA OF A FOREIGN STATE (TIRAN), BUT OF COURSE REFLECTED NO CHANGE OF POSITION IN REGARD TO SUCH STRAITS. MOREOVER, SUBSEQUENT EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR INNOCENT PASSAGE (RATHER THAN FREE PASSAGE) IN STRAITS CONNECTING HIGH SEAS TO HIGH SEAS WAS LOW KEY WITH HINTS OF COMPROMISE.

4. US DEL REPORTS WILL BE CIRCULATED SHORTLY TO ALL POSTS. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO USE THE OCCASION OF REVIEWING SESSION WITH GOE AFTER REPORTS RECEIVED TO ASCERTAIN WHAT GOE HAS IN MIND RE INVITATION BUT WITHOUT COMMITTING US TO VISIT AT THIS POINT. YOUR COMMENTS OF COURSE WOULD BE APPRECIATED. ROBINSON

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